

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/267,150	JAMES, DAVID V	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Christopher Onuaku	2616	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the response to Notice of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief filed 12/1/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15&17-32 (now renumbered 1-31, respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____</li> <li>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</li> </ol> |
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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-15&17-32 are allowable over the prior art of record.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 1, the invention relates to the field of consumer electronic devices coupled in an audio/video network, including a system and method for organizing and accessing data stored in a hard disk device in the audio/video network.

The closest references Brown et al (US 5,875,446) disclose a system and method for generating grouped hierarchical views (with ranking) for a set of (hypermedia) objects in a query context based on one or more relationships, and Yuen et al (US 5,488,409) teach apparatus and methods for facilitating and monitoring the management, storage, and retrieval of programs on a cassette tape.

However Brown et al and Yuen et al fail to explicitly disclose in a mass storage device, a method for organizing and accessing stored data representing audio and visual data, where the method further comprises deriving a unique object identifier for the object and assigning the unique object identifier to the object, wherein the unique object identifier is unique to the mass storage device and also unique to all mass storage devices.

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Regarding claim 15, the invention relates to the field of consumer electronic devices coupled in an audio/video network, including a system and method for organizing and accessing data stored in a hard disk device in the audio/video network.

The closest references Brown et al (US 5,875,446) disclose a system and method for generating grouped hierarchical views (with ranking) for a set of (hypermedia) objects in a query context based on one or more relationships, and Yuen et al (US 5,488,409) teach apparatus and methods for facilitating and monitoring the management, storage, and retrieval of programs on a cassette tape.

However, Brown et al and Yuen et al fail to explicitly disclose mass storage unit, where the mass storage unit further comprises wherein the controller is for associating an object with the data, deriving a unique object identifier for the object, assigning the unique object identifier to the object, and accessing the object using the unique object identifier, wherein the unique object identifier is unique to the mass storage unit and across all mass storage units.

Regarding claim 27, the invention relates to the field of consumer electronic devices coupled in an audio/video network, including a system and method for organizing and accessing data stored in a hard disk device in the audio/video network.

The closest references Brown et al (US 5,875,446) disclose a system and method for generating grouped hierarchical views (with ranking) for a set of (hypermedia) objects in a query context based on one or more relationships, and Yuen

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et al (US 5,488,409) teach apparatus and methods for facilitating and monitoring the management, storage, and retrieval of programs on a cassette tape.

However, Brown et al and Yuen et al fail to explicitly disclose mass storage unit, where the mass storage unit further comprises wherein the microcontroller means is for associating an object with the data, deriving a unique object identifier for the object, assigning the unique object identifier to the object, and accessing the object using the unique object identifier, wherein the unique object identifier is unique to the mass storage unit and across all mass storage units.

### ***Conclusion***

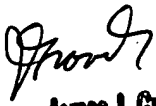
3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is 571-272-7379. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

COO  
3/2/06

  
James J. Groody  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 262-2616